



# OUTLAST

THE MURKOFF ACCOUNT

Part 1

JT PETTY - THE BLACK FROG

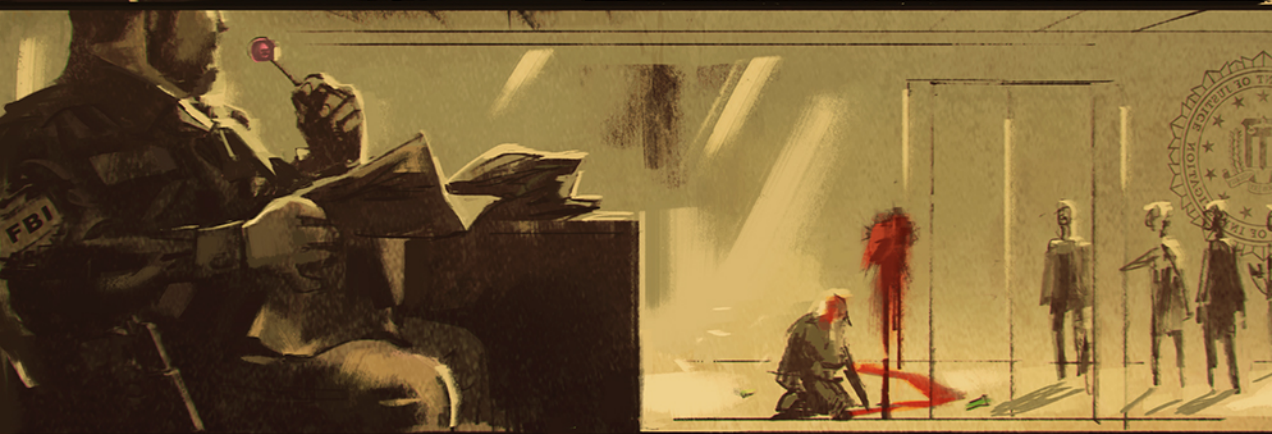
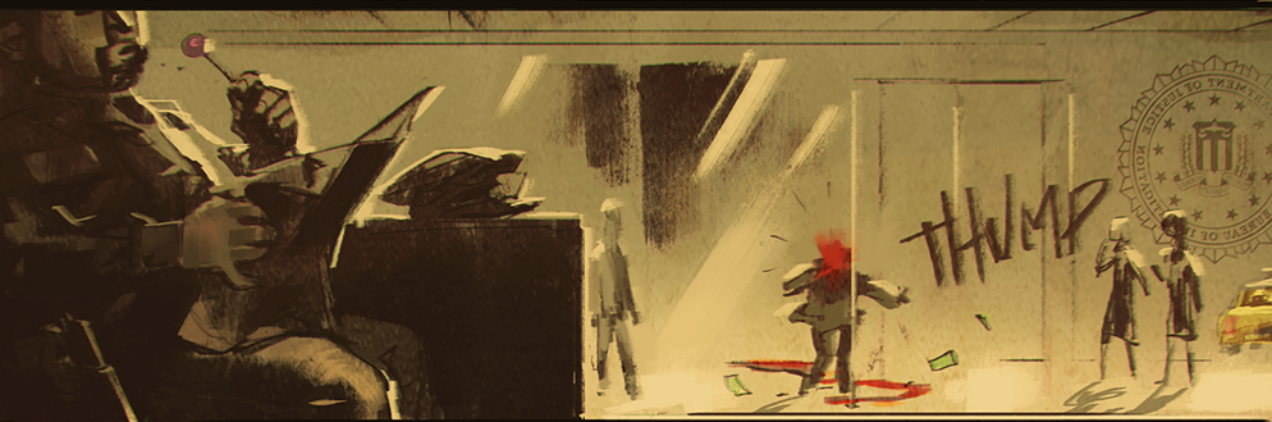
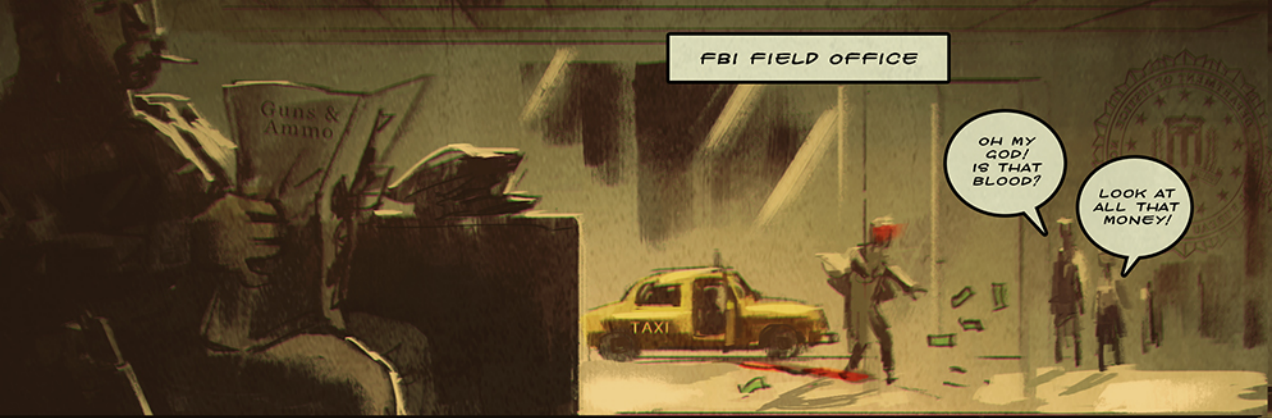
*The trans-national MURKOFF CORPORATION tirelessly pushes the frontier of scientific research and development. Partnering with the greatest minds of tomorrow, Murkoff expands the reach of every branch of scientific inquiry, including gene therapy, behavioral psychology, information technology, and medicine.*

*In the event of mistake or oversight, the MURKOFF INSURANCE MITIGATION DEPARTMENT comes in to minimize economic fallout. Mitigation Officers are damage control. They are not here to save lives or help people, they are here to make sure it doesn't cost the company any more than it has to.*



**PAUL MARION & PAULINE GLICK,  
MURKOFF INSURANCE MITIGATION OFFICERS**

**THE MURKOFF ACCOUNT Part 1**  
**Story by JT PETTY & Art by THE BLACK FROG**





I NEED  
...

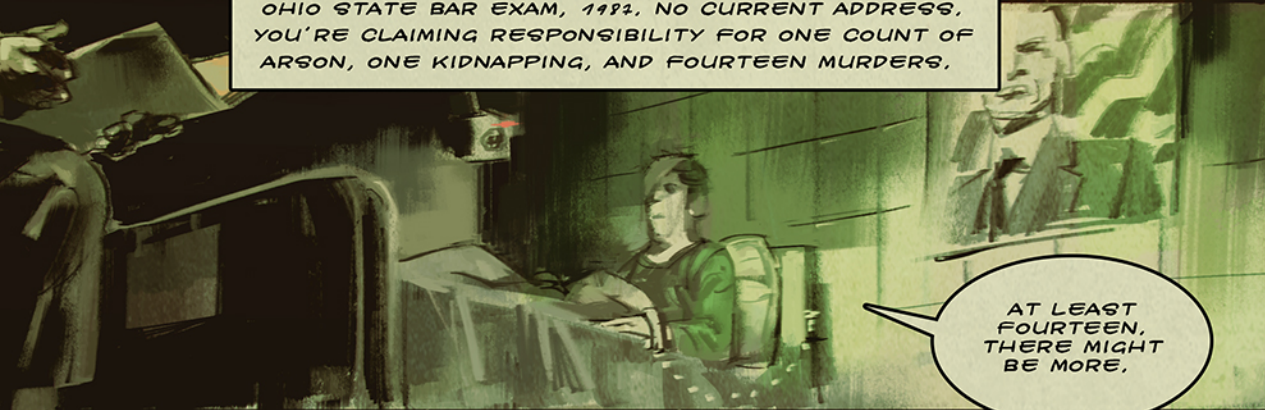


...YOU  
TO ARREST  
ME,



HOLY CRAP,  
I CAN STILL  
SEE OUT OF  
THAT EYE.

MR. PAUL MARION, BORN IN CINCINNATI, PASSED THE OHIO STATE BAR EXAM, 1992, NO CURRENT ADDRESS, YOU'RE CLAIMING RESPONSIBILITY FOR ONE COUNT OF ARSON, ONE KIDNAPPING, AND FOURTEEN MURDERS,



AT LEAST  
FOURTEEN,  
THERE MIGHT  
BE MORE,



YET THERE'S  
NO EVIDENCE FOR  
ANY OF THIS,

OF  
COURSE  
NOT...



THAT'S  
MY JOB,



I'M GOING  
TO NEED A  
LITTLE HELP  
HERE,



HAPPY  
TO LEND A  
HAND,

I HOPE,  
MS. GLICK,  
YOU WON'T MIND  
TALKING WHILE  
YOU EAT?

THE MATTER  
IS URGENT.



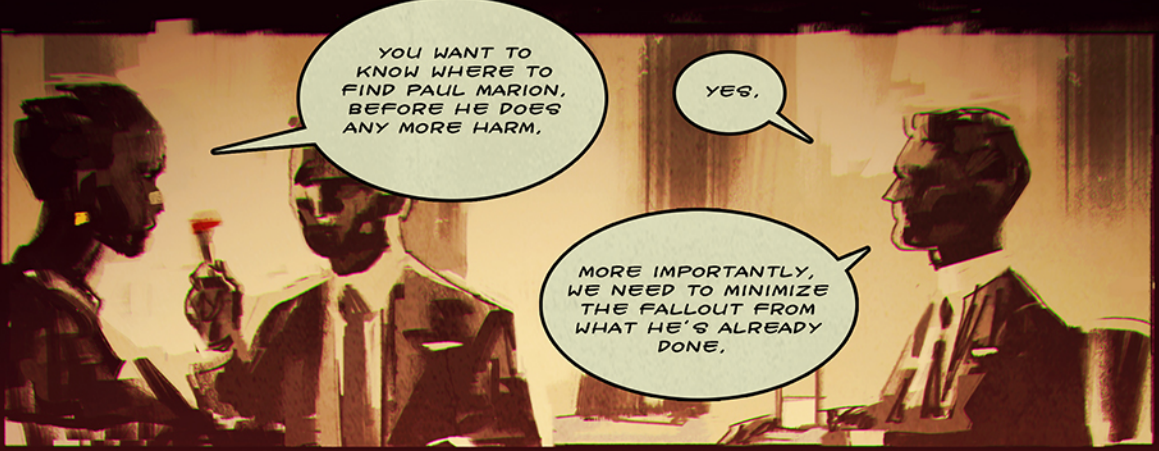
CALL ME  
PAULINE, PLEASE,  
AND OF COURSE, WE  
CAN TALK WHILE  
I EAT.

WHERE DO  
YOU WANT  
TO START?

WITH  
THE STEAK,  
PLEASE.

NO,  
I MEANT  
....


I KNOW  
WHAT YOU  
MEANT,



YOU WANT TO  
KNOW WHERE TO  
FIND PAUL MARION,  
BEFORE HE DOES  
ANY MORE HARM,

YES,


MORE IMPORTANTLY,  
WE NEED TO MINIMIZE  
THE FALLOUT FROM  
WHAT HE'S ALREADY  
DONE,



SOUNDS  
FAMILIAR.  
MORE MEAT,  
PLEASE,


WE  
DON'T KNOW  
HOW EARLY HIS  
SABOTAGE OF  
THE MURKOFF  
CORPORATION  
BEGAN,

SO START  
AT THE  
BEGINNING,



THE BEGINNING,  
THAT WOULD BE 2009, AS SOON  
AS WE WERE PARTNERED UP THEY  
STARTED CALLING US "THE PAULS,"  
PAUL MARION AND PAULINE GLICK,  
HILARIOUS, DO YOU REMEMBER  
THE HAT BOX MURDERS?

OF COURSE,  
WHAT'S HIS NAME,  
THE EGYPTIAN GUY,  
KILLED ALL THOSE  
VETERANS...



OMAR,  
AN AMERICAN,  
HIS GRANDPARENTS  
WERE EGYPTIAN,  
HE WAS BORN IN  
NEWARK,



THEY HAD JUST FOUND THE THIRD BODY, ONE MARTIN BELLMONT, TOOK THEM A DAY TO PIECE HIM BACK TOGETHER.



JUST LIKE THE OTHERS, THE HEAD WAS GONE. HE WAS A VETERAN OF IRAQ, AND LIKE THE FIRST TWO VICTIMS, A PATIENT AT THE SPINDELTOP PSYCHOTHERAPY CLINIC IN HATTIN, TEXAS.




MURKOFF BOUGHT SPINDELTOP TWO YEARS EARLIER AS PART OF BLAIR'S "RESEARCH THROUGH CHARITY" INITIATIVE, THEY HAD A GOVERNMENT CONTRACT TO HELP OUR RETURNING VETERANS COPE WITH PTSD.



THE CHIEF PSYCHOTHERAPIST THERE WASN'T DIRECTLY UNDER MURKOFF MANAGEMENT, SO WE HAD TO GIVE HIM "THE SPEECH."

THE SPEECH?



WE'RE NOT HERE TO SAVE ANYBODY. THE COMPANY YOU WORK FOR BELONGS TO A COMPANY THAT BELONGS TO A COMPANY THAT BELONGS TO THE MURKOFF CORPORATION. ACCIDENTS AND LAWSUITS RAISE MURKOFF'S INSURANCE PREMIUMS, AND UNNECESSARY EXPENSE MAKES US SAD.

WE'RE DAMAGE CONTROL, WE'LL HELP AS MUCH AS WE CAN...

BUT OUR BOTTOM LINE IS THE BOTTOM LINE,

WE'RE LEGAL MITIGATION.



SO YOUR CARD SAYS,

THE MURDERED MEN WERE ALL PATIENTS OF YOURS.

THEY WERE.


WE'LL NEED TO SEE ANY NOTES YOU HAVE ON THEIR THERAPY SESSIONS.

THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE, DOCTOR-PATIENT CONFIDENTIALITY, UNLESS OF COURSE YOU CAN PROVIDE A WARRANT, LIKE THOSE FBI MEN, DID.


WE'LL NEED ANY INFORMATION YOU GAVE TO THE FBI, WE MAY NEED TO SHAPE YOUR TESTIMONY.

Your world, Our business  
Murkoff Insurance Mitigation Department  
**PAULINE GLICK**  
Insurance Mitigation Officer


**MURKOFF CORPORATION**



NOW HOLD ON A SECOND...



ARE THESE SUMERIAN?




THAT'S RIGHT,  
MR. MARION,  
MY PATIENTS WERE  
DAMAGED WHILE WORKING  
IN THE MIDDLE EAST,  
DOES GOOD TO INCLUDE  
SOME ARABIC CULTURE,  
TO SHOW IT'S NOT  
ALL WAR.

THE APKALLU,  
DEMI-GODS GIVEN  
TO MAN TO ESTABLISH  
CIVILIZATION AND  
GUARD AGAINST  
ITS DESTRUCTION.

WHO  
ARE  
THEY?

LIKE THE NEPHILIM,  
GENESIS 4, "THE SONS OF  
GOD CAME IN UNTO THE  
DAUGHTERS OF MEN," THEIR  
CHILDREN THE MIGHTY  
MEN OF RENOWN.

WITH  
ANIMAL HEADS,  
LET'S GET BACK  
ON TRACK.

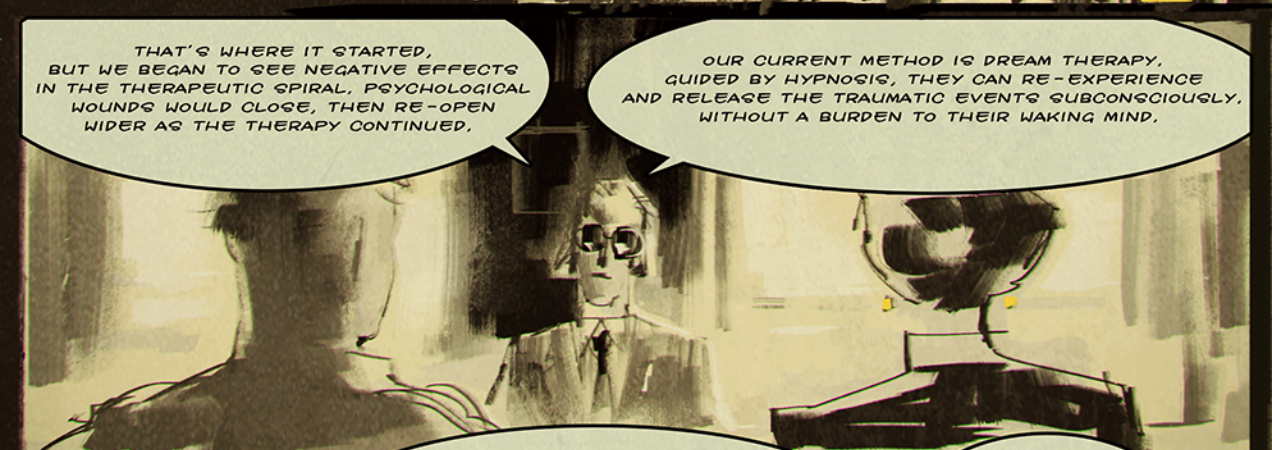


YOUR  
REPORTS DESCRIBE  
EXPERIENTIAL THERAPY,  
RE-LIVING AND DISECTING  
THE EVENT UNTIL IT  
STOPS HURTING.

SOME SCHOLARS THINK SO,  
I LIKE TO THINK IT HELPS OUR  
SOLDIERS TO SEE CHRISTIAN AND  
ISLAMIC MYTHS COMING FROM THE  
SAME PLACE.

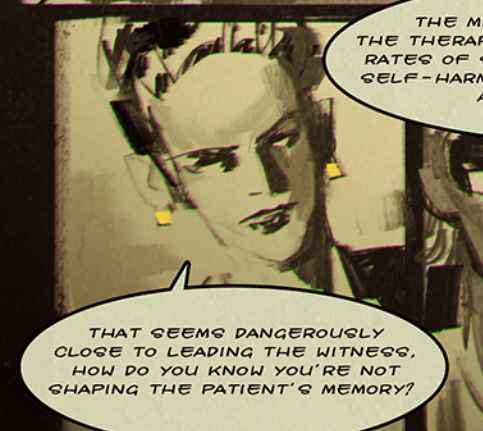
THAT'S WHERE IT STARTED,  
BUT WE BEGAN TO SEE NEGATIVE EFFECTS  
IN THE THERAPEUTIC SPIRAL, PSYCHOLOGICAL  
WOUNDS WOULD CLOSE, THEN RE-OPEN  
WIDER AS THE THERAPY CONTINUED.

OUR CURRENT METHOD IS DREAM THERAPY,  
GUIDED BY HYPNOSIS, THEY CAN RE-EXPERIENCE  
AND RELEASE THE TRAUMATIC EVENTS SUBCONSCIOUSLY,  
WITHOUT A BURDEN TO THEIR WAKING MIND.



THE MIND KNOWS WHAT IT NEEDS,  
THE THERAPY WAS REMARKABLY EFFECTIVE,  
RATES OF SUBSTANCE ABUSE PLUMMETED,  
SELF-HARM AND SUICIDAL THOUGHTS WERE  
ALL BUT ELIMINATED.

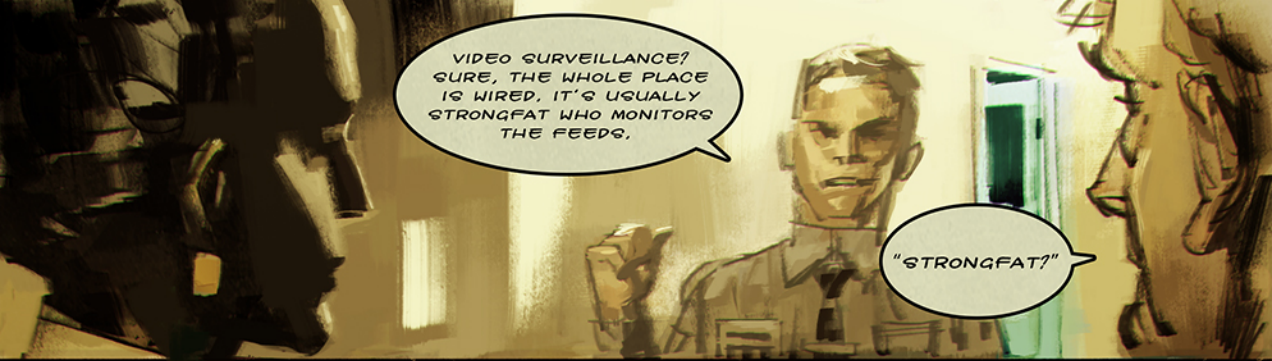
THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE,  
GET A WARRANT OR  
TALK TO THE FBI,



THAT SEEMS DANGEROUSLY  
CLOSE TO LEADING THE WITNESS,  
HOW DO YOU KNOW YOU'RE NOT  
SHAPING THE PATIENT'S MEMORY?


SOUNDS GREAT,  
EXCEPT FOR THOSE  
THREE HOMICIDES, WE'RE GOING  
TO NEED TO SEE THOSE  
CONSULTATION TRANSCRIPTS.

HE STONEWALLED US,  
SO FUCK HIM AND FUCK  
THE FBI, WE GO TO  
A MORE RELIABLE SOURCE.



VIDEO SURVEILLANCE?  
SURE, THE WHOLE PLACE  
IS WIRED, IT'S USUALLY  
STRONGFAT WHO MONITORS  
THE FEEDS.

"STRONGFAT?"



...I WISH  
THOSE GUYS  
WOULDN'T CALL  
ME THAT.

DO THE  
THERAPISTS  
KNOW THEY'RE  
BEING  
RECORDED?


OF COURSE NOT!  
WE'RE WATCHING  
THEM, TOO.

AND YOU  
WATCHED  
EVERY  
THERAPY  
SESSION?

YES MA'AM,  
MAKE SURE  
NOBODY GETS  
HURT.

CAN  
YOU SHOW  
ME THE  
VICTIMS.

THIS IS  
MARTIN BELLMONT,  
THE GUY WHO JUST GOT,  
YOU KNOW, KILLED, HE  
WAS IN AFGHANISTAN,  
I THINK.

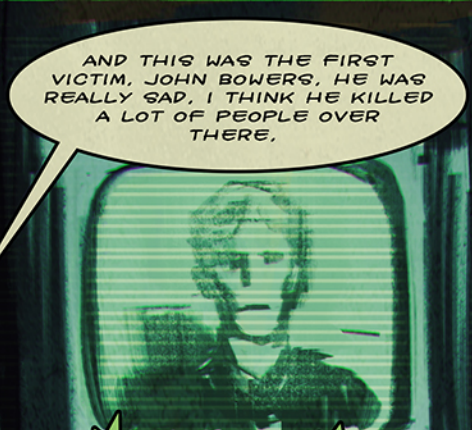


...FISH IN THE DESERT,  
AND THE INSECTS EATING ITS  
EYES ARE EMBERS, BUT THE FISH  
IS ALIVE, AND I'M GOING TO PUT IT  
IN THE WATER I'M CARRYING, BUT  
WHEN I PICK IT UP IT BURNS ME...




THAT'S  
PRISCILLA CLARKE,  
THE SECOND VICTIM.

YEAH,  
SHE WAS  
NICE.



AND THIS WAS THE FIRST  
VICTIM, JOHN BOWERS. HE WAS  
REALLY SAD. I THINK HE KILLED  
A LOT OF PEOPLE OVER  
THERE.




YOU SAID YOU  
MAKE SURE  
NOBODY GETS  
HURT.


...THEY HAD KILLED THE  
CHILDREN, TOO, BUT THE  
CHILDREN AREN'T REALLY  
CHILDREN, THEY'VE GOT  
ANIMAL HEADS, AND IF WE  
DON'T WATCH THEM  
THEY'LL COME IN THE  
HOUSE AND KILL ALL  
THE...

...BECAUSE THEY FOLLOWED  
US BACK, THEY DON'T WANT US  
THEY WANT OUR CHILDREN. THE  
CRAIN, WITH BLOOD ON HIS BEAK  
FROM... FROM OUR HEADS, HE  
DIPS HIS BEAK AND WE MOVE  
LIKE PUPPETS...

YEAH, IT DON'T  
HAPPEN OFTEN,  
BUT, LIKE,  
THIS GUY--




...OMAR SOMETHING.  
HE'S AN OKAY GUY.  
JUST GOT A LOT OF  
STUFF TO WORK OUT.



...I CAN'T TELL THEM THOSE  
THINGS ARE COMING IN, THEY  
MOVE IN BLOOD, SOMETHING  
THAT SUCKS LIGHT OUT, IT  
COMES THROUGH THE WALLS.

CAN YOU  
DESCRIBE  
THE THING?

NO.




I WANT YOU  
TO TRY, OMAR.






GRAAAAAAGH!

OMAR! WAKE UP!  
WHEN YOU HEAR ME  
CLAP YOU WILL WAKE,  
AGGH!




THERE'S  
ME.



YOU'RE GOOD  
AT VIOLENCE.


YEAH,  
I ALWAYS BEEN BIG,  
AND I WAS M.P.  
WHEN I WAS ARMY.

M.P. LIKE  
MILITARY  
POLICE?



YUP,  
THEY TAUGHT  
US SOME JUDO.


...AN EGG! IT'S AN EGG!  
BIRTHED IN BLOOD,  
EVERY LAST ONE OF YOU  
MOTHERFUCKERS!




WE'LL NEED COPIES  
OF ALL THOSE SESSIONS.  
CAN I GET THEM AS AUDIO  
FILES?

SURE.


YOU'VE GOT A MUCH  
HIGHER TOLERANCE FOR  
CRAZY THAN I EVER WILL.  
IT'S ALMOST DINNER TIME.  
LET'S GO SEE IF WE CAN  
CATCH SOME WIDOWS  
EATING DINNER.



...TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS,  
BUT IT'S CASH, WHICH YOU CAN  
FILE AS A REIMBURSEMENT...




...  
MEANING YOU WON'T  
BE TAXED ON IT.




LORD KNOWS WE  
NEED THE MONEY  
BUT I WOULDN'T BET  
A SPLIT NICKEL THAT  
LAWN JOCKEY TAKING  
THE WHITE HOUSE  
DON'T TAKE HALF  
OF IT.

YES, MA'AM,  
OUR SO-CALLED  
GOVERNMENT CERTAINLY  
IS IN A SORRY STATE,  
THOUGH IF THEY'RE  
GOING TO BE EVIL, WE  
CAN AT LEAST THANK  
GOD THEY'RE IDIOTS.




AMEN  
TO THAT.

THE RETROACTIVE  
ARBITRATION AGREEMENT  
WAS ALWAYS GLICK'S BAG.  
SHE COULDA SOLD  
DOG SHIT PERFUME  
IF SHE WANTED TO.

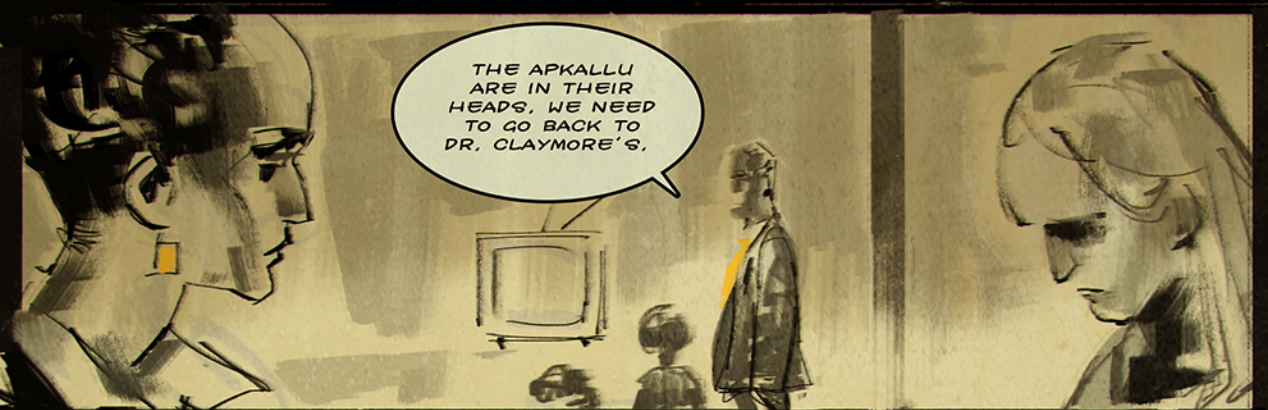
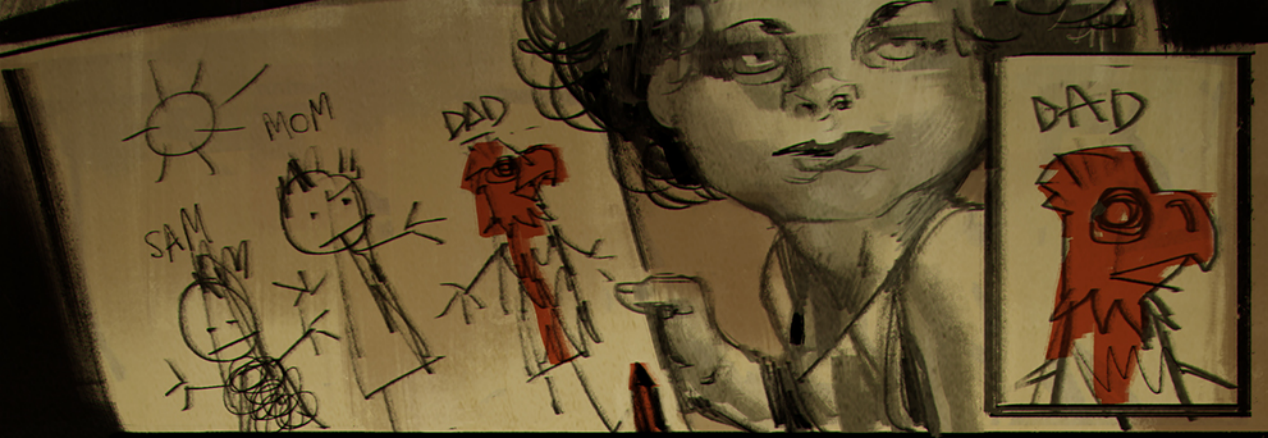


FOR  
TEN THOUSAND  
BUCKS THIS WOMAN  
GIVES UP THE CHANCE  
AT A LAWSUIT WORTH  
A COUPLE MILLION  
AT LEAST.

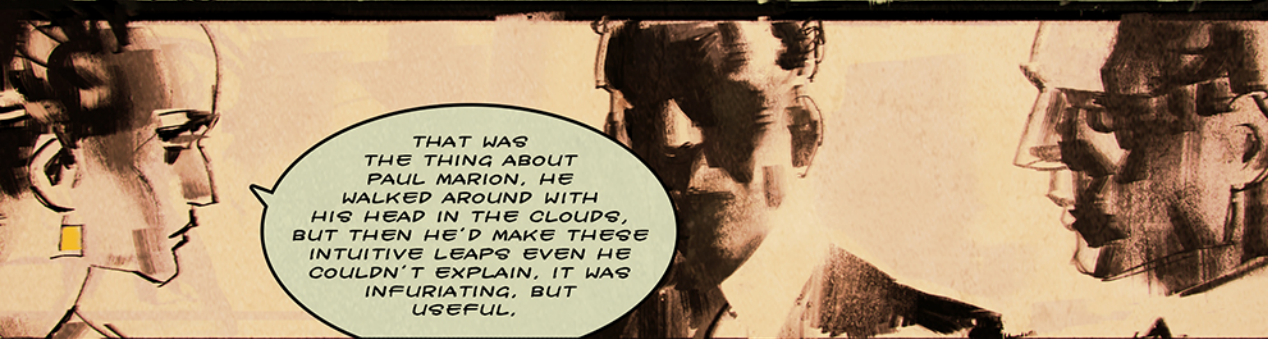


THE CONTRACT WAS A BRILLIANT  
PIECE OF LEGALESE, PROTECTED  
MURKOFF ENTIRELY, WITHOUT  
MENTIONING THE COMPANY ONCE,

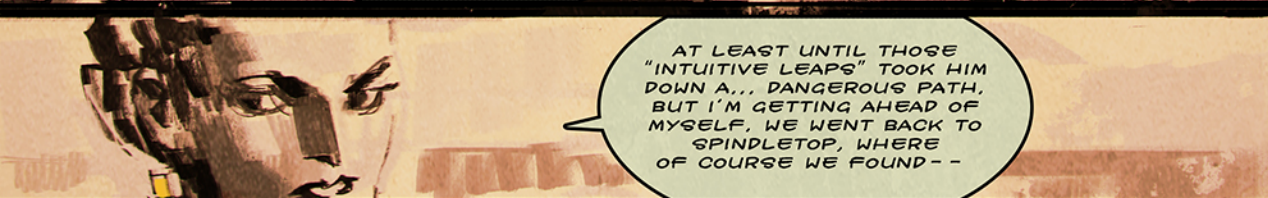




THE APKALLU  
ARE IN THEIR  
HEADS, WE NEED  
TO GO BACK TO  
DR. CLAYMORE'S.



THAT WAS  
THE THING ABOUT  
PAUL MARION. HE  
WALKED AROUND WITH  
HIS HEAD IN THE CLOUDS,  
BUT THEN HE'D MAKE THESE  
INTUITIVE LEAPS EVEN HE  
COULDN'T EXPLAIN. IT WAS  
INFURIATING, BUT  
USEFUL.



AT LEAST UNTIL THOSE  
"INTUITIVE LEAPS" TOOK HIM  
DOWN A... DANGEROUS PATH,  
BUT I'M GETTING AHEAD OF  
MYSELF. WE WENT BACK TO  
SPINDLETOP, WHERE  
OF COURSE WE FOUND - -



I... DON'T THINK  
DR. CLAYMORE IS  
GOING TO BE MUCH  
USE ANY MORE.



THIS WHOLE  
PLACE IS ON  
VIDEO.  
WE'VE GOT  
THE KILLER.

I'M GONNA  
STAY HERE.



WELL,  
SHIT.



NO VIDEO,  
THE WHOLE  
SYSTEM GOT  
SMASHED TO  
HELL,

YEAH, THAT MAKES  
SENSE, THE KILLER'S  
MOTIVATION WAS THE  
CULMINATION OF ALL  
THE SEPARATE SESSIONS,  
AND THERE WAS ONLY TWO  
PEOPLE WHO HEARD  
EVERYTHING EVERY  
PATIENT SAID,  
DR. CLAYMORE,  
AND...



HE'S  
NOT  
HOME.



LUCKILY, A  
WELL-DRESSED  
WHITE WOMAN  
HAS A KEY TO  
EVERY HOUSE IN  
THE WORLD.

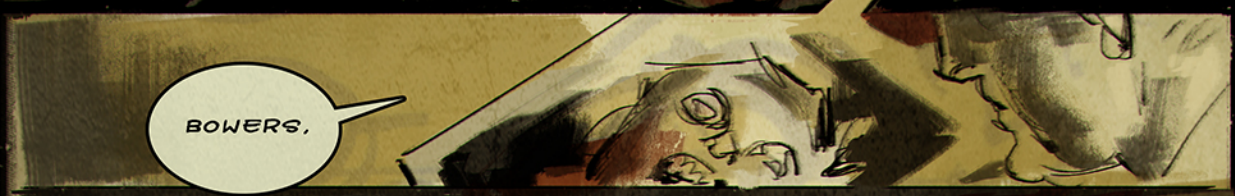


FOUR  
MISSING  
HEADS.  
FOUR  
COOLERS.

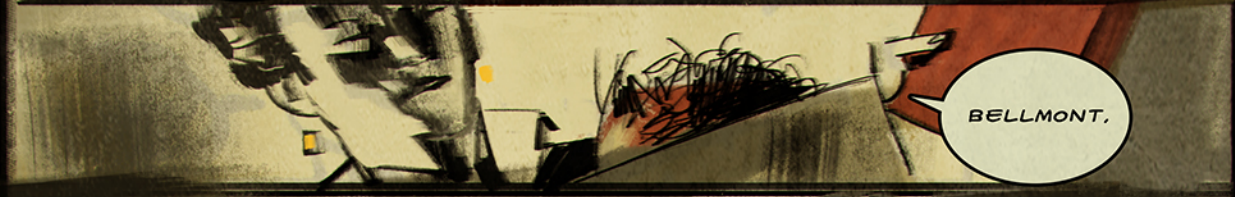
FOUR  
DIRECTIONS  
OF THE COMPASS.  
STRONGFAT WAS IN  
SECURITY. HE WAS  
SETTING UP A  
PERIMETER.



I GOT PRISCILLA HERE.



BOWERS.



BELLMONT.



AND A PLACE HE'S KEEPING COOL FOR CLAYMORE.



MEANING HE'LL BE HERE SOON.

I'LL CALL A SECURITY TEAM.



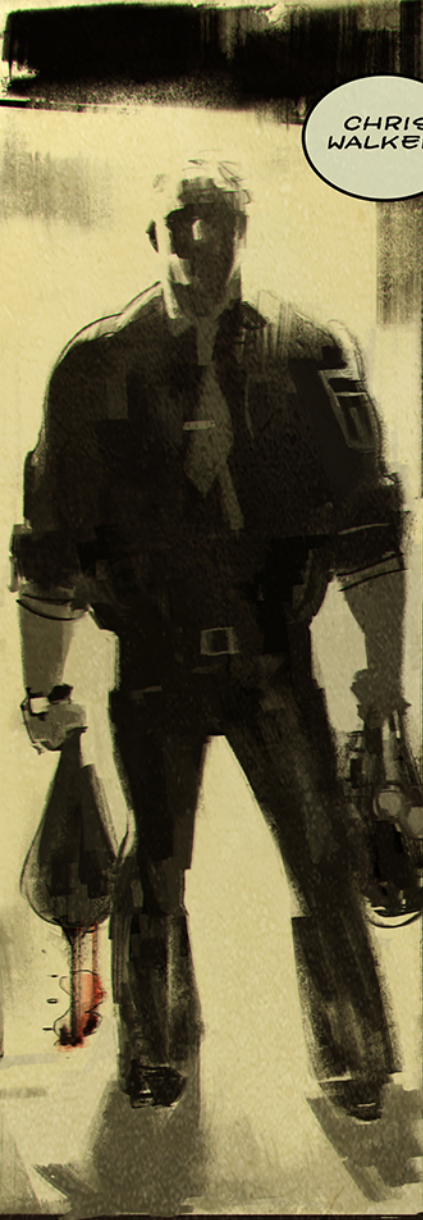
STRONGFAT STILL SLEEPS WITH HIS CHILDHOOD STUFFED ANIMAL. WHY ARE THE KILLERS ALWAYS ANGRY TODDLERS?



WE MIGHT AS WELL START USING HIS REAL NAME. SHIT'S ABOUT TO GO ON RECORD.

FINE, THEN ...

EEEEK...



CHRIS  
WALKER.



LITTLE  
PIG?



HANDS  
ON YOUR  
HEAD!

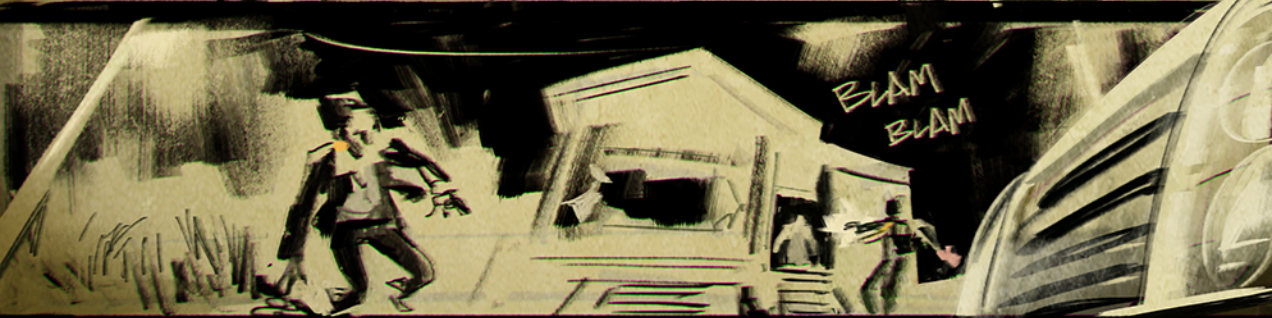
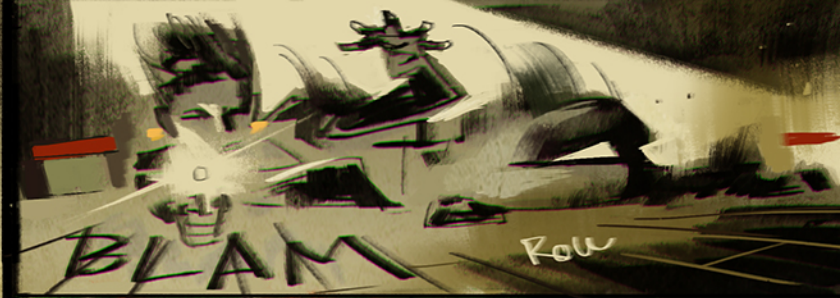
YOU'RE  
...



RRHAARG

NGH

WACK!!





LITTLE  
PIG  
...

WIZOONK  
HUH?




THANKS.

HE'S A  
MURKOFF  
EMPLOYEE.

I THINK  
HE JUST  
RETIRED.

YUP,  
STILL MEANS  
WE GOTTA GET  
HIM OUT OF HERE AND  
COVER UP BEFORE THE  
COPS GET HERE, YOU  
STRONG ENOUGH TO PUT  
THOSE COOLERS IN  
THE TRUCK?



WE PUT  
DR. CLAYMORE'S  
HEAD IN THE  
LAST COOLER AND  
PUT ALL FOUR OF  
THEM IN OMAR  
ABDUL MALIK'S  
APARTMENT.

PRETTY FLIMSY,  
EVIDENCE-WISE,  
BUT HIS NAME AND  
SKIN COLOR DID  
THE HEAVY  
LIFTING.




OMAR  
ABDUL MALIK  
WAS  
INNOCENT?

WELL  
...

I DON'T KNOW ABOUT INNOCENT,  
BUT HE DIDN'T DO THE  
HATBOX MURDERS.

APARTMENT OF ABDUL MALIK



YOU SEEM  
ASHAMED.

I WAS.

I AM.

SO  
WHY DID  
YOU DO THE  
WORK? WAS  
THE MONEY  
THAT GOOD?

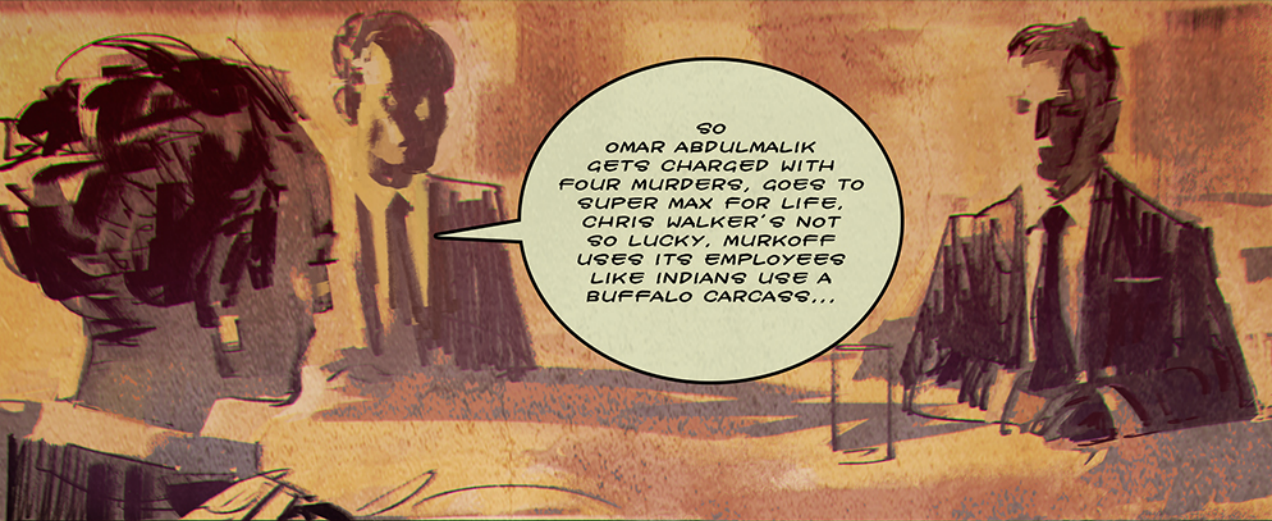
NO, I MEAN, THE  
MONEY WAS GREAT,  
BUT THE REASON  
I KEPT DOING IT...

A BIG PART OF MURKOFF'S BUSINESS IN THE MODERN WORLD IS PHARMACEUTICALS AND GENE THERAPIES. MY DAUGHTER HAS THE SAME BLOOD DISEASE THAT KILLED MY WIFE, EXTRAORDINARILY RARE, AND UNCURABLE,

BUT MURKOFF HAD AN EXPERIMENTAL TREATMENT, COMMERCIALY UNAVAILABLE, AS A MURKOFF EMPLOYEE, I HAD PRIVILEGED ACCESS,

SO LONG AS I KEPT MY JOB, THEY WOULD KEEP ALICE ALIVE,

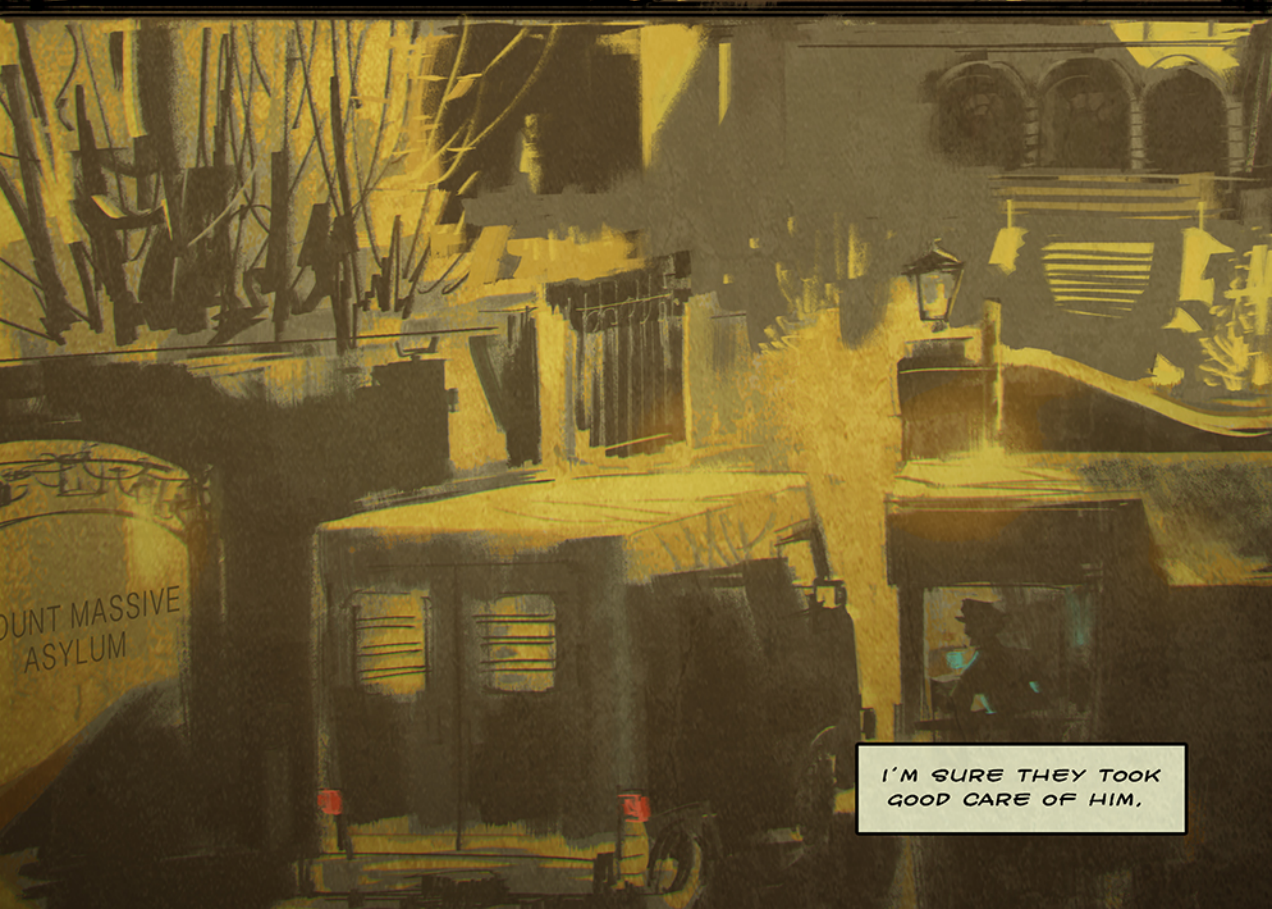




SO  
OMAR ABDULMALIK  
GETS CHARGED WITH  
FOUR MURDERS, GOES TO  
SUPER MAX FOR LIFE,  
CHRIS WALKER'S NOT  
SO LUCKY, MURKOFF  
USES ITS EMPLOYEES  
LIKE INDIANS USE A  
BUFFALO CARCASS...



NOTHING WASTED,

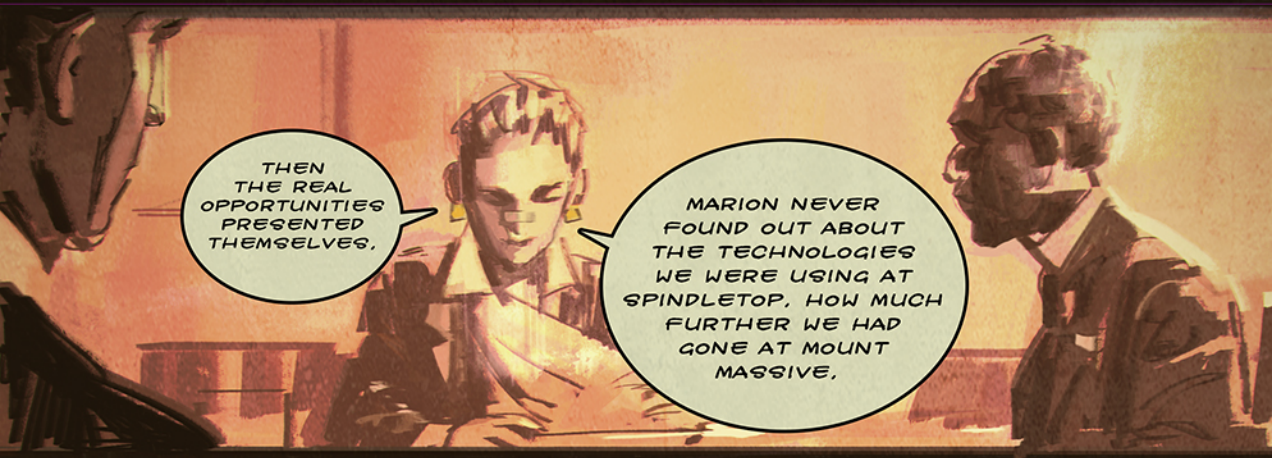


OUNT MASSIVE  
ASYLUM

I'M SURE THEY TOOK  
GOOD CARE OF HIM,



THAT WAS JUST  
THE THREAD THAT  
UNRAVELLED EVERYTHING.  
CHRIS WALKER LEAD TO  
MOUNT MASSIVE, AND  
FROM THERE...



THEN  
THE REAL  
OPPORTUNITIES  
PRESENTED  
THEMSELVES.

MARION NEVER  
FOUND OUT ABOUT  
THE TECHNOLOGIES  
WE WERE USING AT  
SPINDLETOP, HOW MUCH  
FURTHER WE HAD  
GONE AT MOUNT  
MASSIVE,



IT WAS ALMOST SAD,  
MARION STILL THOUGHT  
HE WAS MY PARTNER,  
NOT MY TARGET,

END BOOK 1

*To be continued in Outlast:  
The Murkoff Account Part 2*